



ECFH Financially Speaking

East Caribbean Financial Holding Company Limited

As part of our continued commitment to provide you with pertinent information on investing and investment planning, this week we present another investment term. This week's term is: **Stock Index**

A **stock index** is a method of measuring and reporting the changes in the market value of a group of stocks/shares. Many indices are cited by news or financial services firms and are used as benchmarks to measure the performance of stocks or shares. **Stock indices** can be grouped as either global, for example S&P Global 100, or national as in the case of the Japanese Nikkei 225. Closer to home, we have the Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange Stock (ECSE) index. This index reports on securities traded in the eight Eastern Caribbean territories namely Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

What does this mean for you?

The **stock index** provides you with information on how a particular sector of the market is doing and also provides you with information on the performance of your investment. Therefore, the **stock index** is a very useful guide to what you should be investing in and the size of that investment. As an investor, being informed and aware of the **stock index** should be a priority and you should also seek the professional advice of your portfolio or fund manager on what the **stock index** means for your investments. For more information on **stock indices** and other available investment opportunities, feel free to call Bank of Saint Lucia's Wealth & Asset Management Division (WAM) at 456-6104 or ECFH Global Investment Solutions @457-7233.